

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214876

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS ISSUES AT THE UNGA

1. CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU CALLED ON EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST SEPTEMBER 6 TO RAISE, AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS (SEPTELS), TWO ISSUES RELATING TO TREATMENT OF CYPRUS AT FORTHCOMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IN FIRST PLACE, DIMITRIOU ASKED FOR U.S. SUPPORT FOR RETENTION OF PROCEDURES USED IN PAST FEW YEARS FOR DISCUSSION OF CYPRUS AT UNGA. ISSUE, HE STRESSED CONTINUED TO BE VERY IMPORTANT AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN PLENARY, NOT SIMPLY RELEGATED TO A COMMITTEE.

2. SECONDLY, DIMITRIOU REQUESTED U.S. SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION
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TION THAT GOC INTENDED TO INTRODUCE CALLING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE CASES OF PERSONS MISSING ON CYPRUS SINCE 1974. DIMITRIOU RECOUNTED THAT GOC HAD PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS (ICRC) TO SET UP INDEPENDENT OUTSIDE BODY TO CONDUCT SUCH INVESTIGATIONS, BUT THAT ICRC HAD BEEN UNABLE TO SECURE AGREEMENT OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS AND HAD DROPPED

THE IDEA. DIMITRIOU PORTRAYED CURRENT GOC INITIATIVE AS PURELY HUMANITARIAN EFFORT THAT WOULD BENEFIT BOTH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES. PROSPECTIVE COMMITTEE, HE NOTED, WOULD ALSO

BE CONCERNED WITH THOSE WHO HAD DISAPPEARED "IN YEARS PAST."

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST SAID THAT WE TOOK NOTE OF HUMANITARIAN PURPOSE BEHIND THE GOC PROPOSAL, AND SHARED THEIR CONCERN ABOUT MISSING PERSONS. HE ASKED, HOWEVER, WHETHER GOC REALLY EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING BY THIS MEANS. DIMITRIOU REPLIED THAT THE MISSING PERSONS ISSUE HAD BEEN DAMAGING CLIMATE OF GREEK/TURKISH CYPRIOT RELATIONS FOR SEVERAL YEARS, AND GOC FELT THAT IT COULD ONLY BE FOR THE GOOD TO MAKE ONE MORE EFFORT TO RESOLVE IT THROUGH A NEUTRAL COMMITTEE AND THEREBY CLEAR UP THE ATMOSPHERE.

4. TURKISH CHARGE NURES CALLED ON EUR/SE DIRECTOR SEPTEMBER 7 TO REQUEST U.S. SUPPORT FOR TURKISH POSITION THAT CYPRUS ISSUE SHOULD BE ALLOCATED INITIALLY TO SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE SO REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES COULD BE HEARD, AND ONLY SUBSEQUENTLY TO PLENARY. DEPT OFF SAID THAT WE HAD AS YET MADE NO DECISION ON THIS MATTER, PREFERRING TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS BETWEEN NOW AND GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING. HE

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NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT INITIAL ALLOCATION TO PLENARY IS OFTEN JUSTIFIED ON GROUNDS THAT ISSUE IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, AND THAT CHANCES OF REVISING PROCEDURES OF LAST FEW YEARS WOULD BE BETTER IF THERE WERE SOME PRIOR MOVEMENT IN INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. DEPT OFF ASSURED NURES THAT WE WERE SYMPATHETIC TO TURKISH POSITION, AND WERE EXAMINING MATTER FURTHER, BUT THAT WE NEEDED TO HAVE SOMETHING MORE TO POINT TO BEFORE UNDERTAKING ACTION WHICH WOULD BE SUPPORTIVE OF TURKISH POSITION. VANCE

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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